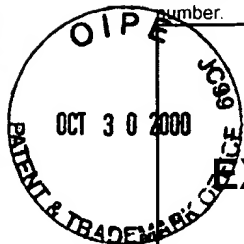


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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,
provides for continued examination of any utility or plant application
filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/070,908
Filing Date	May 4, 1998
First Named Inventor	Mitsunori SAKAMA
Group Art Unit	1762
Examiner Name	M. Padgett
Attorney Docket Number	0756-1799

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provision Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on September 29, 2000. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☒ Other Preliminary Amendment
2. Miscellaneous
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ Months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any other fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380
 - i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1,090.00 (includes extension of time fee) enclosed.
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Jeffrey L. Costellia	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	35,483
Signature		Date	October 30, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

Name (Print/Type)	
Signature	Date:

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

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02 FC:103

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT application of:)
Mitsunori SAKAMA)
Serial No. 09/070,908) Art Unit: 1762
Filed: May 4, 1998) Examiner: M. Padgett
For: FILM FORMING METHOD AND)
FILM FORMING APPARATUS) Date: October 30, 2000

#19/1
11/2/00

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Please preliminarily amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add new claims 104-118 as follows:

--104. A method according to claim 23 wherein said flow rate of said
hydrogen gas is 100 sccm.

jl